1: Karsten--544-559 (1916-18) 1935 Jivaro
116, 193 (1928-29)

[KS: For Karsten's analysis of Jivaro grammar see the original work, pp. 544-559.]

10: Anthony--158 [3] (1920-21) 1921 Jivaro
116, 609, 193

"In general their behavior toward the whites who treat them properly leads to rather amicable relations. With us they were very friendly and very goodnatured, answering any questions as well as their poor Spanish allowed. Only a few of them speak Spanish, but they are intelligent and quick to grasp an idea so that a few words in Spanish aided by signs, may convey much. No one of those we met knew much Spanish, and a peculiarity I noted was the fact that almost always the verbs were used in the participial form. This gave to their conversation a sound very like that produced by riming verse. As an example, I heard this sentence:

'En camino pasando, animales encontrando, un mono matando, cuero sacando, billetes ganando,' which would be translated as: 'He goes along the trail, meets animals, kills a monkey, skins it, and gets some money.'"

25. Vigna--38 [3] (no date)1945 Jivaro
116, 193

The basic construction of the Jíbaro language is poor and the words are limited to things known and subject to control. All the richness of the language is in the verbs: these, besides expressing in consummate form the manifestations of daily life, possess an extraordinary wealth of shading. The Jíbaro language is difficult to learn especially because of the verb; this has as many conjugations as there are expressions it can assume: positive, negative, doubtful, interrogative, of convenience, of favor, etc. When the language does not lend itself to the expression of an idea, they resort to curious circumlocutions, which are often ridiculous and always superficial.